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(12) AUSTRALIAN PATENT ABSTRACT  
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(54) LINING SOFFITS AND EAVES

(75) ALFRED HEDIGER

(21) 88589/82 (22) 21.9.81 (23) 21.9.82 (24) 21.9.81

(43) 31.3.83

(51)<sup>3</sup> E04D 13/15

(74) AH

(57) Claim

1. A trim assembly for supporting lining sheets,  
said trim assembly including a first elongate member adapted  
in use to be supported adjacent to and extend along an  
internal corner formed between dividing faces and a second  
elongate member adapted to be engaged with said first member  
to define therewith captive support means extending along  
said trim assembly for securing the edge of a lining sheet,  
the latter extending in operative attitude across one said  
dividing face.

APPLICANT: ALFRED HEDIGER  
NUMBER: PF 0839  
FILING DATE: 21st September, 1981.

FORM 10

Regulation 13(2)

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Patents Act 1952-1973

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION FOR THE INVENTION ENTITLED:-

"IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDING SYSTEMS"

The following statement is a full description  
of this invention, including the best method of  
performing it known to me:-

THIS INVENTION relates to improvements in building systems and in particular it relates to an easy-to-apply and maintenance-free system for lining and completing soffits and eaves.

5 In conventional building structures the lining of soffits and eaves is a quite time consuming and intricate procedure. The frame for the lining normally includes trimmers secured horizontally between the studs and the fascia boards at intervals of 600 mm. and pole plates  
10 along the external side of the wall frame. It may be necessary also to introduce noggings to provide a secure attachment for the lining sheets which are nailed to the trimmers and nogging. After the lining sheets have been secured in place it is customary to provide a trim in the  
15 form of a moulding along the outer edges of the soffit. In order to provide a high quality finish this can be a very tedious job particularly when there are returns in the soffit at say a window opening.

In such circumstances, in order to provide  
20 a high quality appearance the lining sheets are cut from a relatively large sheet with square saw-tooth like projections adapted to extend into the returns at the windows. As most soffits are say 600 mm. wide and the returns vary from say 150 mm. to 200 mm. and the  
25 lining sheets, suitably asbestos cement sheets, are manufactured in sheets which are 1200 mm. wide, then it will be appreciated that such procedure wastes a large percentage of the lining material since it is not possible to obtain two full lengths of soffit from the

one sheet due to the saw-tooth projections. Of course,  
in addition to the wastage of material a large amount  
of time is spent in securing the edge trim around the  
several corners formed in the return. Thus, the  
5 conventional manner of securing trim to a soffit is  
extremely tedious and as a result, costly.

It is an object of this invention to provide  
a means of lining and completing soffits and eaves and  
the like which will overcome or at least alleviate some  
10 of the difficulties associated with the conventional  
systems and which will be reliable and efficient in use.  
In particular, it is an object of the invention to  
provide a trim assembly for supporting soffit or eave  
lining sheets. Other objects and advantages of the  
15 invention will become apparent from the following  
description.

With the above and other objects in view  
this invention resides broadly in a trim assembly for  
supporting lining sheets, said trim assembly including  
20 a first elongate member adapted in use to be supported  
adjacent to and extend along an internal corner formed  
between dividing faces and a second elongate member  
adapted to be engaged with said first member to define  
therewith captive support means extending along said  
25 trim assembly for securing the edge of a lining sheet,  
the latter extending in operative attitude across one  
said dividing face.

In order that the invention may be more readily  
understood and put into practical effect, reference will

now be made to the accompanying drawings which illustrate a preferred embodiment of the invention and wherein:-

5        Fig. 1 is a general arrangement layout of a soffit liner system;

Fig. 2 illustrates in detail the application of the present invention for securing lining sheets;

10       Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a preferred form of trim assembly made in accordance with the present invention; and

Fig. 4 illustrates, in end view, the two members of the trim assembly.

15       Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, there is illustrated a soffit liner system 10 incorporating a trim assembly according to the present invention. As shown, soffit lining sheets 11 of the liner system extend between a fascia board 12 which is supported by rafters 13 and the outside face 14 of a wall 15 which, in this instance, is a brick wall of a brick veneer building construction.  
20       As is conventional practice, the fascia board 12 is provided with a recess 16 to receive the outer edge of the soffit lining sheets 11 and horizontally disposed trimmers 17 extend between the back face of the fascia board 12 and a wall stud 18.

25       In the present invention, the inside edges of the lining sheets 11 are adapted to be supported by a trim assembly 19 which is disposed adjacent the outer face 14 of the wall 15 and secured to the underside of the trimmers 17. The trim assembly 19 as more clearly

illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, includes a first elongated member 20 and a second elongated member 21 which is adapted to be engaged in use with the first member 20 by means of interengaging latch fingers 22 formed on the respective members 20 and 21. Each member 20 and 21 is preferably an extruded member and the first member 20 is of right angled form and includes a flange 23 which is adapted to co-operate with a flange 24 of the member 21 to define a recess 25 to captively receive the inner edge of the lining sheet 11.

Additionally, a pair of upper and lower flanges 26 and 27 are formed on the back vertical face of the member 20 and extend outwardly thereof and are so spaced apart as to provide a further captive support recess 28 for the edge of a lining sheet 27 which may, in use, be required to extend rearwardly of the trim assembly 19 to seal the area above say a window opening 30 as shown in Fig. 2. It will be seen in Fig. 2 that the lower flange 27 preferably projects outwardly the same distance as the upper flange 26 and is located above the lower edge of the trim assembly 19 to create a dark area 31 which will obliterate to some extent any unevenness in the brickwork of the wall 14. In Fig. 2 the window is in the form of an aluminium frame unit 32 and for the purpose of supporting the lining sheet 29 a timber fill-piece 33 is secured above the window frame 31 by nailing into the reveal 34 in conventional manner.

It will be seen from the above that where the soffit lining has to return into a window opening or

the like wastage of lining material as has occurred in the past is prevented as the return lining portion is separate from the soffit lining and may often be made of scrap material. Furthermore, it will be possible to  
5 obtain at least two lengths of lining material from one sheet of lining material simply by cutting the sheet in half. Thus, this invention will effect a great saving in actual lining material and in the timber for the trimmers.

Another advantage of this invention is that  
10 as there is no nail connection to the brick wall there is no likelihood of breaking the bond between the upper brick to which a trim or the like is being nailed, and its supporting brick. In conventional methods where such bonds are common the mortar bond is frequently  
15 broken along the top line of bricks. A costly and difficult task is then necessary to regrout the loosened bricks back into their correct position.

Further to the above advantages and as shown in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, the member 20 is provided with integrally  
20 formed part circular recesses 35 which are adapted to receive spigot members which may be formed of wire so as to enable accurate butt joints to be formed between respective members 19. The present invention also envisages the use of corner brackets accurately pre-formed  
25 to enable neat connections to be made between trimming members meeting at a corner of a building.

In use, base members 20 of the trim assembly 19 are initially attached to the underside of the trimming members 17 by nails, screws or the like 36 as shown in

Fig. 2 with the flanges 26 and 27 in abutting relationship with the outside face 14 of the wall 13 where appropriate so as to provide a finish which is aesthetically pleasing. The second members 21 can  
5 then be snapped into engagement with the first members 20 after painting of the soffit and eave liner sheets has been completed so that the liner sheets are supported in place.

Of course, any suitable arrangement may be provided so that the member 20 can be engaged with the member 21. Furthermore, the trim assembly may be easily  
10 mitred around corners, reveals and bay windows.

It will thus be seen that the present invention provides an efficient and easy to use trim assembly which is pleasing aesthetically. Furthermore, the  
15 mounting screws or the like for the upper member 20 will be hidden in use by the lower snap-on member 21.

Whilst the above has been given by way of illustrative example of the invention, it will be realised that many modifications and variations may be  
20 made to the above described embodiment by persons skilled in the art without departing from the broad scope and ambit of the invention as defined by the appended claims. For example the members 20 and 21 of the trim assembly  
25 may be of a form other than illustrated in the drawings which only show a preferred form of the trim assembly members.



THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

1. A trim assembly for supporting lining sheets, said trim assembly including a first elongate member adapted in use to be supported adjacent to and extend along an internal corner formed between dividing faces and a second elongate member adapted to be engaged with said first member to define therewith captive support means extending along said trim assembly for securing the edge of a lining sheet, the latter extending in operative attitude across one said dividing face.

2. A trim assembly according to Claim 1, wherein said first member includes a flange portion and said second member includes a flange portion, said flange portions when said second member is engaged with said first member, being spaced apart and defining said captive support means.

3. A trim assembly according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein each said member includes at least one engagement finger, said fingers being adapted to co-operate to retain said second member in engagement with said first member.

4. A trim assembly according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said first member includes a planar wall and wherein said flange portion comprises an outer free end of said wall, said wall being adapted to receive fasteners therethrough whereby to support said member in use.

5. A trim assembly according to Claim 4, wherein said first member includes a further said wall disposed

substantially at right angles to said first wall and defining at its free end an engagement finger for engagement with an engagement finger on said second member.

6. A trim assembly according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said first member includes a pair of spaced apart flanges extending in use towards the other said dividing face.

7. A trim assembly according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said first member includes an integrally formed longitudinally extending recess adapted to receive a spigot member therein whereby respective said first members may be abutted and interconnected with each other.

8. A trim assembly according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said first and second members are extruded members.

9. A trim assembly substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

DATED this 21st day of September, 1982.

ALFRED HEDIGER  
By his Patent Attorneys  
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Fellow Institute of Patent  
Attorneys of Australia.

FIG.1

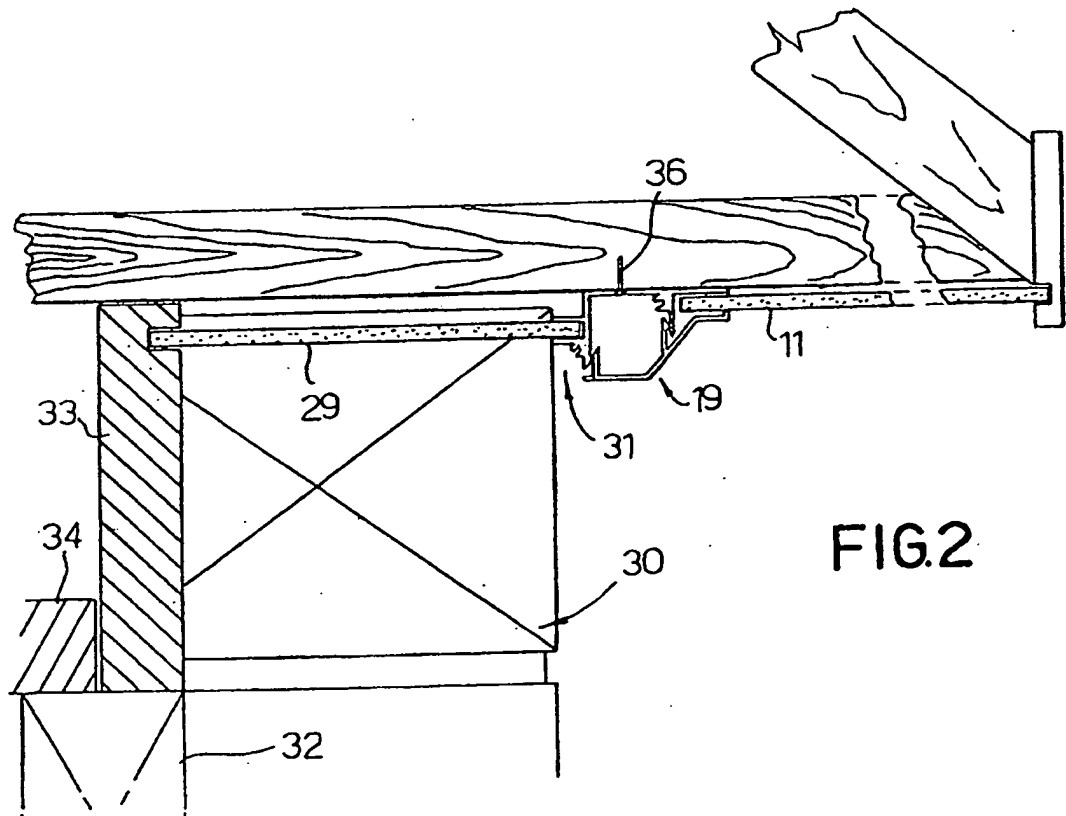
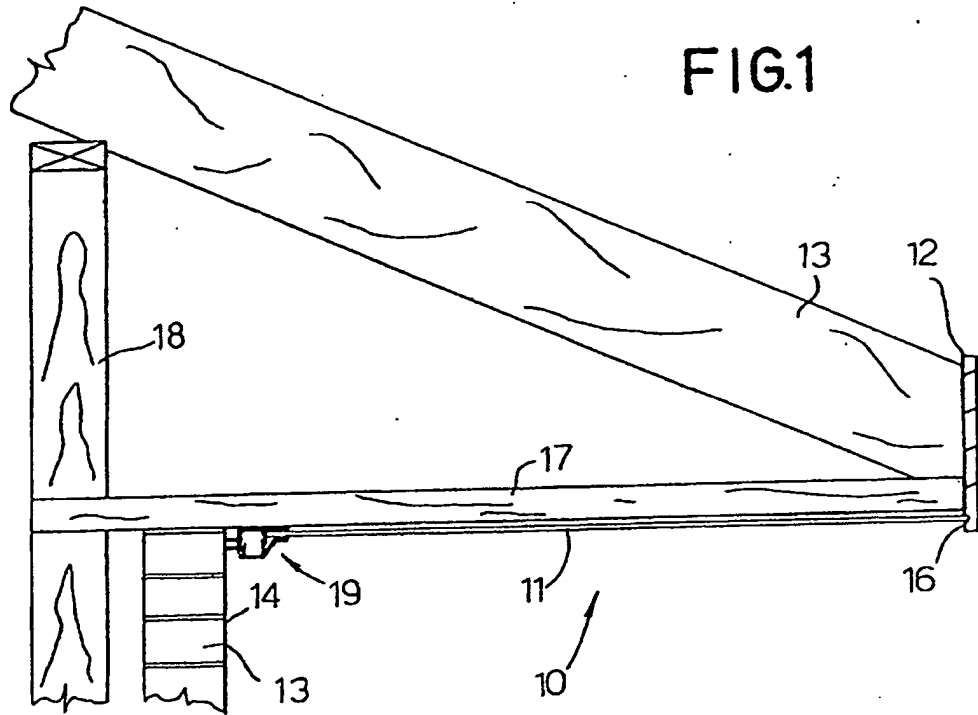


FIG.2

